

Summer Reading

It is important to continue to develop reading skills throughout the year. Equally valuable is exposure to quality reading.

The books on this list are not required, simply suggestions from Mrs. Harland, HAJH Librarian. Keep in mind that: **Reading is the key to success in all subjects.**

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Funny Books

Bloor, Edward. Tangerine.

So what if he's legally blind? Even with his bottle-thick, bug-eyed glasses, Paul Fisher can play soccer. No one ever listens to Paul, though--until the family moves to Tangerine. In Tangerine, even a blind, geeky, alien freak can become cool. Soccer fans will like this one. If you like this one, Bloor has a new book out to try: Crusader.

Colville, Bruce. The Skull of Truth.

Hilarious story featuring a talking skull who forces people to tell the truth woven into an environmental political fight.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. Bud, Not Buddy.

Ever think about running away from home? Bud, not Buddy is on the lam. He's running away from his orphanage with a suitcase filled with pictures and rocks. He's constantly quoting from his own "Rules and Things for Having a Funner Life and Making a Better Liar out of Yourself." This book about depression era Michigan is the 2000 Newberry Award winner.

Pevsner, Stella. Would My Fortune Cookie Lie?

While worrying that her mom is plotting to move the family from their Chicago home, thirteen-year-old Alexis also wonders about the mysterious young man who seems to be shadowing her and her friend.

Pinkwater, Daniel. Anything!

Rennison, Louise. Angus, Thongs and Full-Frontal Snogging. (also parts 2 and 3)

These are the hysterical tell-all diaries of a middle school girl named Georgia who is concerned with pimples, fashion, and boys.

Spinelli, Jerry. Anything!

Venokur, Ross. The Autobiography of Meatball Finkelstein.

13-year-old Meatball, an overweight vegetarian, discovers that eating meatballs gives him the magic power of turning into anything he wants, and he uses this ability to fight his principal's diabolical plot to eliminate fun from the planet.

Science Fiction / Fantasy



Card, Orson Scott. Ender's Game.

Aliens have attacked Earth and almost destroyed the human species. To make sure humans win the next encounter, the world government has taken to breeding military geniuses and then training them in the arts of war. The early training takes the form of games. Ender is a 6 year old genius among geniuses; he wins all the games. He is smart enough to know that time is running out. But is he smart enough to save the planet?

Cart, Michael. Tomorrowland: stories about the future.

Welcome to Tomorrowland where the future can be as distant as Mars, as near as your next heartbeat, or as indelible as last night's tattoo. This is a collection of ten writers stories about time travel, the past, and the future.

Jarvis, Robin. The Dark Portal (and part 2 of the *Deptford Mice Trilogy*).

While on a rescue mission, a few daring mice journey below to the sewers to an evil world populated by rats who peel mice before eating them and worship the Dark Lord. (These books are similar to the Redwall series by Brian Jacques)

Levine, Gail. Ella Enchanted.

A childhood curse forces Ella to obey any order given to her.

Pullman, Phillip. His Dark Materials series.

Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North.

Thompson, Kate. Switchers.

Tess has a secret. She can change herself into any animal. Kevin, too, is a switcher, and their shared abilities render them unlikely companions, as she reluctantly joins in an effort to save the world from the threat of another ice age.

Tolkien, J.R.R. Anything.

Mysteries

Byers, Betsy. Dead Letter.

Herculeah Jones and her best friend set out to crack the case of the mysterious note she finds in the lining of a second-hand coat.

Giberga, Jane. Friends to Die For.

Sophisticated 16-year old girls in New York get involved in a murder at a party.

Roberts, Willo Davis. The Kidnappers.

Remember the little boy who cried wolf? You don't want to earn a reputation of being a liar. When Joey is the only person to see the school bully being kidnapped, nobody believes his story. The truth is, however, that the bully has actually been kidnapped and the only people who believe that Joey saw it happen are the kidnappers themselves. Now Joey himself is in danger, too.

Stanley, Diane. The Mysterious Matter of I.M. Fine.

Noticing that a popular series of horror novels is having a bizarre effect on the behavior of its readers, Franny and Beamer set out to find the mysterious author.

Wendelin Van Draane. Sammy Keyes mysteries.

13 year old Sammy stumbles onto mysteries that she intends to solve using her detective skills.

Adventure



Fleischman, Paul. Whirligig.

Brent kills a teenage girl while driving home drunk from a party. Since the victim loved whirligigs, her mother asks Brent to build four and plant them in the four corners of the U.S. - Washington, California, Florida and Maine.

Hesser, Terry. Kissing Doorknobs.

When Tara Sullivan was 11 years old, she heard a phrase that changes her life: Step on a crack, break your mother's back. Now, everywhere she goes, Tara must count every crack in the sidewalk. If she gets interrupted or loses her place, she has to go home and start all over again. As she gets older, her "habits" don't get better--they change and increase. Find out what it is like to live the life of an obsessive compulsive teenager.

Horowitz, Anthony. Stormbreaker.

14 yr. old Alex Rider takes over his uncle's mission as a top-secret spy working for the British government. He must outsmart terrorists before they murder every child in England.

Sachar, Louis. Holes.

Stanley Yelnats is convicted of a crime he didn't commit and sentenced to Camp Green Lake. Every day, each inmate must dig a hole that measures five feet deep and five feet in diameter in the dry lakebed. Stanley soon suspects the holes are not just to build character but that the warden is searching for something.

Shusterman, Neal. Anything by him!

Yolen, Jane and Coville, Bruce. Armageddon Summer.

Jed and Marina, two teens who've never met, try to protect their families by accompanying them to a mountaintop in Massachusetts along with the chosen 144 "true believers" of a religious cult preparing for the end of the world.

Animal Stories



DiCamillo, Kate. Because of Winn-Dixie.

A young girl tells of the wonderful things that happened to her because of her big ugly dog named Winn-Dixie.

Harrell, Beatrice Olcott. Longwalker's Journey.

When the government removes their tribe from their sacred homeland in 1831, ten-year-old Minko, his father, and their horse endure terrible hardships on their journey from Mississippi to Oklahoma, where Minko receives the name Longwalker.

Osborne, Mary Pope. Adaline Falling Star.

Feeling abandoned by her deceased Arapaho mother and Kit Carson, her explorer father, Adaline Falling Star runs away from the prejudiced cousins with whom she is staying and comes close to death in the wilderness, with only a mongrel dog for company.

Horror



Atwater-Rhodes, Amelia. In the Forests of the Night.

A teenage vampire, wanders back in time to the year 1684 when, as a human, she died and was transformed against her will.

Deaver, Julie Reece, The Night I Disappeared.

Something scary is happening to 17-year-old Jamie Tessman. Ever since she and her mother arrived in Chicago, she's been plagued by freaky mind-slips and vivid daydreams. When Jamie's inner world starts taking her hostage she becomes terrified that she is slowly losing her mind.

Griffin, Peni R. the Ghost Sitter.

For 50 years, 10-year-old Susie has been waiting for her parents to come back. Each family that moves into her home seems not to notice her, except for the children. Susie likes children and she even likes to baby-sit, but can she baby-sit forever?

Hahn, Mary Downing. Look for Me by Moonlight.

A ghost haunts a family living in Maine.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. Jade Green : A Ghost Story.

While living with her uncle in a house haunted by the ghost of a young woman, recently orphaned Judith Sparrow wonders if her one small mistake causes mysterious happenings.

Seabrooke, Brenda. The Haunting at Stratton Falls.

At Christmastime in 1944, while staying with disagreeable cousins in New York State because her father is in Europe fighting in World War II, eleven-year-old Abby discovers that her relatives' old house is haunted by the ghost of a girl from the Civil War era.

Shan, Darren. Cirque Du Freak.

Two boys who are best friends visit an illegal freak show, where an encounter with a vampire and a deadly spider forces them to make life-changing choices

Sleator, William. The Beasties or the Boxes.

Horror writer R.L. Stein says that he reads Sleator books when he wants a good scare.

Zindel, Paul. Anything.

Zindel's books are all about creatures from the deepest parts of the sea, the forest, the basement, and your mind. Try Rats, Night of the Bat, or Reef of Death for a suspenseful thriller.